



COUNTRY REPORT: SOUTH AFRICA

Date: March 2012

1. Consultations through NEDLAC

South Africa consults on TBT matters with Government, Business, Labour and the Community on a national level through a NEDLAC SQAM Task Team. NEDLAC's aim is to make economic decision-making more inclusive to promote the goals of economic growth and social equity.

In 2011/12 the Nedlac SQAM Task Team agreed to work on the following policy matters over a period of three years.

- The Move from Trade to Legal Metrology
- Water Efficiency in New Buildings and Compulsory Requirements for Plumbing Products

2

2. South African Building Regulations (Energy Efficiency) and Legal Metrology

The Energy Efficiency Building Regulations was published, on 9 September 2011 and came into effect on 9 November 2011. The regulations will make it compulsory for all new buildings to be designed and constructed to a standard that will make it possible for the user to minimize the energy required to meet the functional requirements. Buildings will also have to be fitted with renewable energy water heating systems i.e. solar water heating systems or heat pumps that have to comply with South African National Standards (SANS).

The Move from Trade to Legal Metrology, - position paper was finalized, legal drafting started by State Law Advisers and draft Bill will be tabled 1st half of 2012

Water Efficiency in New Buildings and Compulsory Requirements for Plumbing Products, - the policy paper was finalised, impact assessment will be done in 2012/13

4. New or amended compulsory specifications finalized in 2011

- Correction notices to the compulsory specification for motor vehicles of category M1 &N1
- Amendment of Trade Metrology: Part II
- Amendment of Compulsory specification for motor vehicles of category 01/02
- Introduction of compulsory specification for live aquacultured Abalone
- Introduction of compulsory specification for safety glazing material for buildings
- Publication for payment of fees to the NRCS
- Correction notices to the compulsory specification for electrical and electronic apparatus
- Compulsory spec for pressurized paraffin fuelled appliances
- Compulsory specifications for cord sets and cord extension sets
- Amendment to Part II of the trade metrology regulations to amend requirements for continuous totalizing automatic weighing instrument
- Proposed amendment to Part 11 of the trade metrology – requirements for non automatic weighing instruments, beam scales balances

5. Compulsory Specification that will be developed and implemented over the next three years

- Compulsory specifications for Electrical products in buildings for isolating transformers, industrial type socket outlets, emergency stop devices, earth leakage circuit breakers and no-trip disconnectors
- Compulsory specification for safety of electric vehicles
- Compulsory specification for solar water heaters
- Compulsory energy efficiency requirements for a range of household appliances
- Amendment of the compulsory specification for Disinfectants and Detergent-disinfectants
- Amendment of the compulsory specification for Plastic Carrier Bags and Flat Bags
- Amendment of the compulsory specification for Frozen Fish. Marine Molluscs and associated products
- Amendment of the compulsory specification for Non-pressure paraffin stoves and heaters